

Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 IO-10 SSO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DPW-01 /074 W

----- 069233

O P 271355Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5857

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

ICINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

USSAG/7AFNKP THAI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAN THO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5674

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NVA OFFENSIVE--SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
ENDING NOON, APRIL 26

1. GENERAL

IN AN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE AND HASTEN ONGOING POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS
IN SAIGON THE COMMUNITIES ESCALATED THEIR MILITARY
ACTIVITY DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS. SAIGON WAS ROCKETED AND A SERIES
OF ATTACKS WERE MOUNTED ON INSTALLATIONS AND TOWNS RANGED ALONG
HWY 15 RUNNING FROM SAIGON TO VUNG TAU. LONG BINH LOGISTICS
COMPLEX WAS ATTACKED AS WERE LONG THANH, DISTRICT TOWN AND PHUOC
LE (BA RIA) CAPITAL OF PHUOC TUY PROVINCE. HWY 15 IS CLOSED.
THERE ARE REPORTS OF HEAVY FIGHTING IN TAN AN CAPITAL OF LONG
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AN PROVINCE ON HWY 4. TRAFFIC TO THE DELTA IS BACKED UP ON HW 4

BECAUSE OF THE FIGHTING. BIEN HOA AIRBASE WAS SHELLED AND DISORDERLY ARVN SOLDIERS ARE LOOTING IN BIEN HOA CITY WHICH HAS BEEN PLACED UNDER A 24 HOUR CURFEW.

2. SAIGON

AT APPROXIMATELY 0400 APRIL 27, THE DOWNTOWN AREA OF SAIGON WAS HIT BY SEVEN 122MM ROCKETS. ONE OF THE SEVEN WAS A DUDS BUT ONE ROCKET HIT THE MAJESTIC HOTEL AND A SECOND IMPACTED IN THE CENTRAL MARKET AREA. SIX PEOPLE WERE KILLED AND TWENTY TWO INJURED BY THE ROCKETS AND DAMAGE WAS CONSIDERABLE.

3. MR-111

IN THE EARLY EVENING OF APRIL 26 NVA UNITS MOUNTED A SERIES OF ATTACKS ON GVN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND TOWNS IN BIEN HOA AND PHUOC TUY PROVINCES. BEAR CAT BASE, HOME OF THE ARMOR SCHOOL WAS HIT AND OVERRUN. LONG THANH DISTRICT TOWN ASTRIDE HWY 15 WAS HIT BY NVA 325 DIV ELEMENTS WITH TANKS. AT LAST REPORT, THE TOWN HAD FALLEN INTO COMMUNIST HANDS BUT SECTOR HQS WAS HOLDING OUT. PHUOC LE (BA RIA) AND INSTALLATIONS IN THE VICINITY ALSO CAME UNDER ATTACK BY TANK SUPPORTED NVA SOLDIERS. ARVN DEFENDERS, AIRBORNE AND 3RD DIVISION ELEMENTS HAVE SUCCEEDED IN HOLDING ON TO THE TOWN. NEARER TO SAIGON, NVA 304 TH DIV. ELEMENTS PROBED THE EASTERN DEFENSES OF THE LONG BINH LOGISTICS COMPLEX. AT ONE POINT IN THE EARLY MORNING OF APRIL 27 NVA TANKS WERE DIRECTING FIRE INTO THE BASE FROM 300 TO 500 METERS AWAY. EXTENT OF DAMAGE OR LOSSES AT LONG BINH IS NOT KNOWN. IN EASTERN BIEN HOA, ARVN 18TH DIV CLASHED WITH NVA ELEMENTS NEAR THE BIEN HOA, LONG KHANH BORDER. SOME ARVN UNITS ARE REPORTED TO BE CUTOFF BY THE NVA. AT 1100, APRIL 27 BIEN HOA AIRBASE RECEIVED 40 ROUNDS OF 130MM SHELLS WITH UNKNOWN RESULTS. BIEN HOA CITY HAS BEEN PLACED UNDER 24 HOURS CURFEW. TRAFFIC IS BACKED UP ON HW 4 TO THE DELTA BY FIGHTING IN THE VICINITY OF TAN AN, CAPITAL OF LONG AN PROVINCE.

4. MR-IV

MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA REMAINED AT A MODERATE LEVEL WITH MOST ACTIVITY CENTERED IN DINH TUONG AND CHUONG THIEN PROVINCES.

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5. POST NOON UPDATE

AS OF 1530, APRIL 27, LONG THANH DISTRICT TOWN AND HQS HAS FALLEN. PHUOC LE (BA RIA) RECEIVED A 2,000 ROUND ABF. DEFENDERS ARE HOLDING BUT PEOPLE ARE FLEEING TO VUNG TAU. LONG BINH LOGISTICS BASE IS TAKING FIRE FROM TANKS.
MARTIN

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NNN

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